



## Studies in the News

California Research Bureau, California State Library

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## **CRIMINAL JUSTICE & LAW ENFORCEMENT**

*Divided Justice: Trends in Black and White Jail Incarceration, 1990-2013.* By Ram Subramanian, et al. Vera Institute of Justice. Feb. 2018. 48 p.

[https://storage.googleapis.com/vera-web-assets/downloads/Publications/divided-justice-black-white-jail-incarceration/legacy\\_downloads/Divided-Justice-full-report.pdf](https://storage.googleapis.com/vera-web-assets/downloads/Publications/divided-justice-black-white-jail-incarceration/legacy_downloads/Divided-Justice-full-report.pdf)

“Black jail incarceration rates have fallen significantly since the nationwide peak in 2005; in contrast, white jail incarceration rates have steadily grown across all regions and jurisdiction types since 1990.... While recent declines in black rates may indicate some progress in reducing racial imbalances in jail incarceration, black people remain 3.6 times more likely to be incarcerated in local jails nationally than white people.” According to the report, in 1990, blacks were 7 times more likely to be in jail. “Complete and accurate data provides a starting point for more fine-grained analyses that will clarify the reasons

behind recent jail trends by race. But data is not a panacea for racial disproportionality—it is only a tool for tracing each group’s pathway to the jailhouse door. Once those drivers of jail incarceration are better understood, determining potential ways to close that door will likely become more apparent.”

## ECONOMY

***The Economic Implications of Housing Supply.* By Edward Glaeser and Joseph Gyourko. *Journal of Economic Perspectives*. Winter 2018. 28 p.**

<https://pubs.aeaweb.org/doi/pdfplus/10.1257/jep.32.1.3>

“While most of America has experienced little growth in housing wealth over the past 30 years, the older, richer buyers in America’s most regulated areas have experienced significant increases in housing equity. The regulation of America’s most productive places seems to have led labor to locate in places where wages and prices are lower, reducing America’s overall economic output in the process.... If California’s restrictions induce more building in Texas and Arizona, then their net environmental effect could be negative in aggregate.... The great challenge facing attempts to loosen local housing restrictions is that existing homeowners do not want more affordable homes: they want the value of their asset to cost more, not less.”

## EDUCATION

**“Who Perceives They Are Smarter? Exploring the Influence of Student Characteristics on Student Academic Self-concept in Physiology.” By Katelyn M. Cooper, et al. *Advances in Physiology Education*, vol. 42: 200-208. 9 p.**

<https://www.physiology.org/doi/pdf/10.1152/advan.00085.2017>

“Men in STEM subject areas overestimate their own intelligence and credentials, underestimate the abilities of female colleagues, and that as a result, women themselves doubt their abilities—even when hard evidence such as grades say otherwise. [The authors] studied the effect in an undergraduate biology class. The average grade in the class was a 3.3. But when they asked students to ask if they were smarter than their classmates, ‘the average male student thinks he is smarter than 66% of the class, while the average female student thinks she is smarter than 54% of the class.’” ([NBC News](#), Apr. 4, 2018).

**“A Multicomponent, Preschool to Third Grade Preventive Intervention and Educational Attainment at 35 Years of Age.” By Arthur J. Reynolds, *JAMA Pediatrics*, vol. 172, no. 3 (2018) pp. 247-256.**

<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamapediatrics/fullarticle/2668645>

This study of the Chicago-based Parent-Child Centers (CPC), a preschool program emphasizing structured math, literacy practice and parental involvement, finds that the children participating in the program went on to attain high levels of education. “Students who started the CPC program in preschool were 47% more likely to earn an associate’s degree and 41% more likely to earn a bachelor’s degree than children who participated in standard preschool programs, the study found. That likelihood increased for students who remained in the program through second or third grade; those children were 48% more likely to earn an associate’s degree and 74% more likely to earn a master’s degree or higher. The longer students participated in CPC, the stronger the benefit.” ([Scientific American](#), Mar. 22, 2018).

## EMPLOYMENT

***How China's Proposed Tariffs Could Affect U.S. Workers and Industries.*** By Mark Muro, et al. Brookings Institution. Apr. 2018.

<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/the-avenue/2018/04/09/how-chinas-tariffs-could-affect-u-s-workers-and-industries/>

"Brookings researchers singled out 40 American industries that would be affected by Beijing's retaliatory tariffs, which together employ 2.1 million people across the country. Of those, 441,000—over 20%—are based in California and Washington state. Los Angeles has the highest number of jobs at risk of any county across the country, with about 40,000 people working in industries that could be affected by Chinese tariffs. King and Snohomish counties in Washington state are close behind, each with about 39,000 jobs that could be affected. Ventura, Fresno, San Diego, Kern, Alameda, Napa, Sonoma and Monterey counties in California and Yakima County in Washington also rank in the top 25." ([McClatchy](#), Apr. 11, 2018).

## ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

***State of the Air 2018.*** By Janice E. Nolen, et al. American Lung Association. Apr. 2018. 167 p.

<http://www.lung.org/assets/documents/healthy-air/state-of-the-air/sota-2018-full.pdf>

**California Overview.** <https://bit.ly/2HuBkxI>

"This year's report reveals that the state's ozone levels rose significantly due to some of the warmest temperatures on record in 2016.... [This report] found that 90% of Californians live in areas with unhealthy air at some point during the year. California's most populous metro area, Los Angeles, led the nation for ozone pollution, faring worse than it did in the 2017 report. The San Joaquin Valley dominated the list of most polluted for short-term and year-round particle pollution with Visalia, Bakersfield and Fresno all landing in the top five." ([Press Release](#), Apr. 18, 2018).

## GENERAL GOVERNMENT

***Homelessness in California: State Government and the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority Need to Strengthen Their Efforts to Address Homelessness.*** California State Auditor. Apr. 19, 2018. 74 p.

<http://www.auditor.ca.gov/pdfs/reports/2017-112.pdf>

"California's top auditor Thursday sharply criticized the state's response to homelessness, recommending more spending and a stronger state role.... Other states with large homeless populations spend more per capita to shelter them and have single statewide entities dedicated to addressing homelessness, it said.... While not recommending specific funding amounts, the audit contrasted spending in Los Angeles County with New York City. New York's Department of Homeless Services budgets about \$17,000 annually per homeless person ... and shelters all but about 5% of the city's homeless population. In Los Angeles, the audit estimated, annual spending is only about \$5,000 per person and three-quarters of the homeless population has no shelter.... The state audit comes two weeks after a fiscal review by Los Angeles County auditors found weaknesses in the homeless authority's finance operation including understaffing and lack of management oversight." ([Los Angeles Times](#), Apr. 19, 2018).

***Homelessness Task Force Report 2018: Tools and Resources for Cities and Counties.*** Institute for Local Government, League of California Cities and California State Association of Counties. Mar. 2, 2018. 48 p.

<http://www.ca-ilg.org/overview/homelessness-california>

“[T]he number of people without homes in California has now risen for three consecutive years.... Homelessness is no longer confined to our major metropolitan areas — it has spread to every part of our state. Distressingly, the increase is due to large increases in the number of unsheltered homeless people.” This report summarizes promising local government practices in areas including data collection and case management, funding options, existing and emerging approaches such as rapid rehousing and tiny homes, and targeted programs for veterans and families. Includes index of homelessness strategic plans from participating cities and counties.

## HEALTH

**“Association of a Negative Wealth Shock with All-Cause Mortality in Middle-aged and other Adults in the United States.”** By Lindsay Pool, et al. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, vol. 319 no. 13 (Apr. 3, 2018) 10 p.

<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/fullarticle/2677445> (Available at the California State Library)

“In a nationally representative sample of US adults aged 51 years or older, more than 25% of individuals experienced a negative wealth shock of 75% or more during a 20-year follow-up period, from 1994 through 2014. A negative wealth shock was associated with an HR [adjusted hazard ratio] of 1.50, a risk that was only slightly smaller than the risk associated with asset poverty, an established social determinant of mortality.... This study adds to research that has shown associations between negative wealth shocks and short-term health outcomes, including depression and anxiety, suicide, impaired cardiovascular function, and substance abuse.... Declining financial resources can result in reduced spending on health-related goods and services. Delaying needed medical care and incomplete adherence to prescribed medication can have long-term health consequences, including increased mortality.”

## HUMAN SERVICES

***Improving Child Care Subsidy Programs: Findings from the Work Support Strategies Evaluation.*** By Heather Hahn, et al. Urban Institute. Feb. 2018. 31 p.

[https://www.urban.org/sites/default/files/publication/96376/improving\\_child\\_care\\_subsidy\\_programs.pdf](https://www.urban.org/sites/default/files/publication/96376/improving_child_care_subsidy_programs.pdf)

“Work Support Strategies (WSS) was a multiyear, multistate, foundation-funded initiative to help low-income families get and keep the package of work supports for which they are eligible to help them work and improve their well-being. Colorado, Idaho, Illinois, North Carolina, Rhode Island, and South Carolina were selected through a competitive process to participate in WSS.... [T]his report highlights steps taken and lessons learned by five states that participated in the Work Support Strategies initiative between 2012 and 2015. These states worked to improve child care subsidy access and retention, efficiency of service delivery, quality of client service, and alignment with other benefit programs.”

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